

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 048756

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIE-00

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:NCLEDSKY:MJB

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S/PRS - AMB. ANDERSON

S/S-O:PK JOHNSON

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O P 050100Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 048756

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT STATEMENT ON GREECE

REF: ATHENS 1746

1. THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ISSUED THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT TO THE PRESS ON TUESDAY AFTERNOON, MARCH 4. ADDRESSEES MAY DRAW UPON, BUT SHOULD ADHERE CLOSELY TO THE CONTENTS OF THIS STATEMENT IN HANDLING INQUIRIES THEY MAY RECEIVE ON THIS GENERAL SUBJECT.

2. BEGIN TEXT: WE HAVE SEEN STORIES IN THE GREEK AND CYPRIOT PRESS BASED ON ALLEGATIONS THAT THE SECRETARY HAS MADE COMMENTS TO THE EFFECT THAT IF GREECE DID NOT CHANGE ITS POLICIES ON CYPRUS, GREECE WOULD LOSE CARAMANLIS. OTHER ALLEGATIONS IN THESE SAME STORIES SUGGEST THAT THE SECRETARY HAS PURPORTED TO SPEAK FOR CARAMANLIS ON THE CUTOFF OF U.S. MILITARY AID TO TURKEY.

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THESE ALLEGATIONS ARE TOTALLY WITHOUT FOUNDATION. THEY ARE, IN THE SECRETARY'S VIEW, HARMFUL TO THE VITAL OBJECTIVE TOWARD WHICH THIS GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO WORK; THAT IS, A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE OF CYPRUS AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME. MOREOVER, THE STORIES DO GRAVE INJUSTICE TO OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS, WHOSE LEADERSHIP THE UNITED STATES STRONGLY RESPECTS AND SUPPORTS. END TEXT. KISSINGER

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